

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) In-vitro method for the identification and/or quantification of guanylate binding protein-1 or fragments of this protein in the culture supernatant of a tissue sample, a body fluid sample or a sample from a cell culture supernatant, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- (a) contacting of the sample with a first receptor which specifically binds guanylate binding protein-1 or a fragment of this protein; and
- (b) ~~detection of~~ detecting a specific binding of the receptor with guanylate binding protein-1 or a fragment of this protein.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, furthermore comprising step (a') or (a'') prior to contacting with the first receptor:

- (a') labelling the proteins contained in the sample; or
- (a'') labelling the first receptor.

3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the receptor is immobilised on a surface prior to contacting with guanylate binding protein-1 or fragments of this protein.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the receptor is immobilised on a surface after contacting with guanylate binding protein-1 or of fragments of this protein.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 3 or 4~~ claim 2, wherein the material of the surface is selected from the group consisting of sepharose, latex, glass, polystyrene, polyvinyl, nitrocellulose and silicon.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 5~~ claim 2, wherein the surface is a membrane, a bead, a chip or a plate.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, furthermore comprising the step (a'') prior to the step of detection of a specific binding:

(a'') precipitating the beads with the complexes which are bound thereto of the first receptor and guanylate binding protein-1 or a fragment of this protein.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the detection of the specific binding in step (b) comprises a gel electrophoretic cleavage, optionally, furthermore, a Western blot analysis.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein for the detection of a specific binding of guanylate binding protein-1 or a fragment of this protein with the first

receptor in step (a), the sample is contacted with the second receptor for guanylate binding protein-1 or a fragment of this protein, which binds to an epitope of guanylate binding protein-1 or a fragment of this protein, which is accessible after the binding of the first receptor to guanylate binding protein-1 or a fragment of this protein.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the second receptor for guanylate binding protein-1 or fragments of this protein is/are labelled.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the labelling of the second receptor for guanylate binding protein-1 or a fragment of this protein comprises a system emitting a signal or which is specifically recognised by a further, third receptor comprising a system emitting a signal.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the system emitting a signal comprises an enzyme emitting this signal.

13. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 12~~ claim 9, wherein the first and the second receptor and, optionally, also the third receptor, are selected from the group consisting of peptides, polypeptides, low-molecular substances, antibodies or fragments or derivatives thereof and aptamers.

14. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, wherein the method is an ELISA, an EIA or a RIA.

15. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1, wherein the method is carried out automatically.